

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 306915  
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
/033 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:FTUMMINIA:FBL  
APPROVED BY AR;/RPP:GLISTER

----- 058124 /43

P 181930Z DEC 76  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 306915

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, HA, US

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT

1. FYI ONLY: FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF UNCLASSIFIED  
VERSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT INFORMATION ON HAITI.  
EMBASSY COMMENTS, IF ANY, WOULD BE WELCOME.

2. BEGIN REPORT . . .

I. HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION

A. POLITICAL SITUATION

HAITI, THE POOREST COUNTRY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE,  
HAS NEVER ENJOYED A DEMOCRATIC TRADITION. SINCE IT  
BECAME INDEPENDENT IN 1804, THE POLITICAL HISTORY OF  
THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN ONE OF AUTHORITARIAN LEADERSHIP,  
PUNCTUATED BY CONTINUAL ATTEMPTS BY THOSE OUT OF POWER  
TO REMOVE THE REGIME IN POWER BY FORCE. HUMAN RIGHTS,  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 306915

DUE PROCESS AND POLITICAL FREEDOMS AS KNOWN IN WESTERN  
EUROPE AND THE U.S. HAVE NEVER BEEN PART OF HAITI'S  
POLITICAL TRADITIONS.

IN THE 1960'S, ATTENTION FOCUSED ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS

SITUATION IN HAITI BECAUSE OF A NUMBER OF PARTICULARLY  
SERIOUS ABUSES UNDER THE LATE PRESIDENT. DUE TO DUVALIER'S  
OWN AUTHORITARIAN NATURE AND IN REACTION TO A SERIES OF

COUP ATTEMPTS MOUNTED FROM ABROAD, AN ATMOSPHERE OF SUSPICION AND INSECURITY PREVAILED IN HAITI. ALL OPPOSITION TO THE REGIME WAS SUPPRESSED.

SINCE 1971, THERE HAS BEEN AN IMPROVEMENT OF THE POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE; THIS SLOW TREND CONTINUES, WITH OCCASIONAL SETBACKS. PRESIDENT JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER HAS DECLARED POLICIES OF DOMESTIC DETENTE AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION; AND POLITICAL REPRESSION HAS EASED. OVER 500 PRISONERS, INCLUDING A NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, HAVE BEEN RELEASED IN SIX SEPARATE AMNESTIES. THE PRESIDENT HAS PUBLICLY ASSURED HAITIAN EXILES THEY COULD RETURN WITHOUT REPRISALS, AND HUNDREDS HAVE DONE SO.

NONETHELESS, THE GOVERNMENT IN HAITI REMAINS BASICALLY AUTHORITARIAN. OPPOSITION POLITICAL ACTIVITY IS NOT PERMITTED.

#### B. LEGAL SITUATION

THE HAITIAN CONSTITUTION PROVIDES GUARANTEES FOR A BROAD RANGE OF UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS, AMONG THEM LIFE, LIBERTY, PRIVACY, FREEDOM OF SPEECH, WARRANTS FOR ARREST AND SEARCH, AND TRIAL BY JURY. THESE RIGHTS HAVE RARELY BEEN OBSERVED. MOST OF THEM ARE FORMALLY SUSPENDED UNDER A STATE OF SIEGE IN EFFECT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 306915

SINCE 1958. HOWEVER, HAITI'S CRIMINAL COURTS CONVENED THIS SPRING IN REGULAR SESSION FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 16 YEARS. IN SEPTEMBER, 1976, PRESIDENT DUVALIER INSTRUCTED THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE TO BRING ALL PERSONS ARRESTED PROMPTLY BEFORE THE CRIMINAL COURTS.

#### C. OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS

##### 1. INTEGRITY OF THE PERSON

ARTICLE 3 OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS: UNDER THE FRANCOIS DUVALIER REGIME IN HAITI, THERE WAS WIDESPREAD DANGER TO LIFE AND PERSONAL SECURITY, INCLUDING THE RISK OF PROLONGED INCARCERATION DUE TO FALSE DENUNCIATIONS. THIS SITUATION HAS IMPROVED UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER. DETENTION FOR EXTENDED PERIODS WITHOUT REGARD TO DUE PROCESS STILL OCCURS, BUT IT NOW APPEARS LIMITED LARGELY TO THOSE CONSIDERED TO BE SERIOUS SECURITY RISKS OR VIOLATORS.

ARTICLE 5: IT IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE THE DEGREE OF HAITI'S COMPLIANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE. CONDITIONS IN

HAITIAN PRISONS ARE GENERALLY POOR.

THE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT, 1975-76, STATES THAT ARBITRARY EXECUTIONS, STARVATION, APPALLING HYGIENIC CONDITIONS, DISEASE AND TORTURE ACCOUNT FOR ONE OF THE HIGHEST MORTALITY RATES AMONG PRISONERS IN ANY COUNTRY. HOWEVER, AI AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL REPORTS DO NOT DESCRIBE ANY SPECIFIC ACCUSATIONS OR CASES OF TORTURE IN HAITI IN RECENT YEARS.

TWO PRISONERS RELEASED FROM THE NATIONAL PENITENTIARY IN 1975 AND 1976 HAVE REPORTED THAT POLITICAL PRISONERS TODAY RECEIVE PLAIN BUT BASICALLY ADEQUATE FOOD AND LIVE IN TOLERABLE CONDITIONS IN THE THREE BLOCKS RESERVED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04     STATE 306915

FOR THEM AT THE PENITENTIARY. ANOTHER PRISONER RELEASED EARLIER FROM THE FORT DIMANCHE PRISON REPORTED THAT CONDITIONS THERE WERE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED FROM WHAT THEY HAD BEEN IN THE 1960'S. NONE OF THE RELEASED PRISONERS OR OTHER EYEWITNESS SOURCES IN HAITI HAVE REPORTED KNOWLEDGE OF TORTURE OR SUMMARY EXECUTIONS SINCE THE LATE 1960'S.

ARTICLE 8: THE HAITIAN CONSTITUTION PROVIDES FOR THE RIGHT OF PETITION FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO EFFECTIVE RELIEF FROM THE COURTS IN CASES INCLUDING CHARGES OF SUBVERSION.

ARTICLE 9: PERSONS CONSIDERED A THREAT TO SECURITY ARE STILL SUBJECT TO ARREST AND DETENTION WITHOUT CIVIL TRIAL. THE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT, 1975-76, STATES THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS ACCURATELY THE PRESENT NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN HAITI, A STATEMENT WITH WHICH WE CONCUR.

AI FURTHER REPORTS THAT IT HAS 255 NAMES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND ESTIMATES RANGE FROM 400 (THE MORE USUAL FIGURE) TO 3,000. OUR ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS CURRENTLY HELD IN HAITI ON POLITICALLY RELATED GROUNDS, BASED ON REPORTS OF RELEASED PRISONERS AND OTHER SOURCES IN THE COUNTRY, IS IN THE RANGE OF 100.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT A NUMBER OF THESE SO-CALLED POLITICAL PRISONERS WERE CONVICTED BY SECRET MILITARY COURTS-MARTIAL OF ENGAGING IN SPECIFIC CONSPIRACIES OR ATTEMPTS TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT BY FORCE, SUCH AS THE REVOLT OF THE HAITIAN COAST GUARD IN 1970 AND THE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED KIDNAPPING OF THE SON OF THE

MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE IN AUGUST, 1972.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 05     STATE 306915

PRESIDENT JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER HAS GRANTED AMNESTIES SIX TIMES SINCE ASSUMING POWER, RELEASING A TOTAL OF ABOUT 500 PRISONERS -- MOST OF THEM ARRESTED BEFORE HE CAME TO POWER. THE LATEST RELEASE WAS ALSO THE LARGEST.

FOLLOWING A PRESIDENTIAL INSPECTION VISIT TO THE NATIONAL PENITENTIARY ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1976, THE HAITIAN PRESS ON SEPTEMBER 29 PUBLISHED THE NAMES OF 261 PRISONERS ORDERED RELEASED BY THE PRESIDENT. NO CHARGES WILL BE BROUGHT AGAINST THE PRISONERS RELEASED, AND THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE HAS BEEN ORDERED TO PRESENT THE CASES OF ALL REMAINING PERSONS HELD FOR MISDEMEANORS AND CRIMES AT THE NEXT CRIMINAL ASSIZES.

COUPLED WITH HIS RELEASE OF THE PRISONERS, PRESIDENT DUVALIER INSTRUCTED THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE TO BRING ALL PERSONS ARRESTED PROMPTLY BEFORE THE CRIMINAL COURTS.

ARTICLE 10: A FAIR HEARING IS AVAILABLE IN MOST ORDINARY TRIALS IN HAITI. FAIR HEARINGS ARE LESS LIKELY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, WHERE FEW TRIALS TAKE PLACE, OR FOR PERSONS DETAINED ON SECURITY GROUNDS AND TRIED IN THE MILITARY COURTS.

ON NOVEMBER 17, 1975, A CATHOLIC PRIEST WHO WORKED AS A MISSIONARY IN HAITI TESTIFIED TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THAT, IN THE SOUTH OF HAITI, THE LAW IS STILL LARGELY IN THE HANDS OF THE MILITARY AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, THE MILITIA. HE REPORTED THAT, FROM WHAT HE HAD OBSERVED IN THE REGION OF CAYES, ARRESTS ARE MADE WITHOUT COURT WARRANTS, AND LEGAL COUNSEL IS ARBITRARILY GRANTED OR DENIED TO THE ALLEGED DEFENDERS AT THE DISCRETION OF ONE OR ANOTHER PERSON IN HIGH PLACES.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 06     STATE 306915

ARTICLE 11: CIVILIAN COURTS APPEAR TO HONOR THIS ARTICLE'S REQUIREMENTS FOR A FAIR TRIAL AND COUNSEL. IN 1975, THE CRIMINAL COURTS, SUSPENDED UNDER THE PREVIOUS REGIME, WERE RESUMED AS AN ESTABLISHED ELEMENT IN THE JUDICIAL CALENDAR, AND THE FIRST FORMAL CRIMINAL TRIAL IN YEARS WAS HELD. IN 1976, THE COURTS GENERATED CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC INTEREST AND RESULTED IN SEVERAL

WIDELY PUBLICIZED ACQUITTALS. MILITARY COURTS ARE MORE ARBITRARY.

## 2. OTHER FREEDOMS

HAITIANS CAN GENERALLY MOVE FREELY WITHIN THE COUNTRY. THEY REQUIRE A PASSPORT AND EXIT VISA TO TRAVEL ABROAD. HAITIANS ABROAD FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD REQUIRE A RE-ENTRY VISA TO RETURN. DOCUMENTS ARE REFUSED PERSONS CONSIDERED SUBVERSIVE OR AGAINST WHOM CHARGES ARE PENDING, BUT THESE ARE UNDERSTOOD TO BE A SMALL MINORITY OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICANTS. ACCORDING TO THE AIRLINES SERVING HAITI, HUNDREDS OF HAITIANS DEPART AND ENTER THE COUNTRY EVERY WEEK.

IN 1973, THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT FORMALLY ADHERED TO THREE LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL ASYLUM CONVENTIONS. IT HAS RESPECTED THESE CONVENTIONS, WHICH ALLOW FOR ASYLUM IN THE EMBASSIES OF THE CONTRACTING COUNTRIES.

CATHOLICISM IS THE STATE RELIGION IN HAITI, BUT OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS EXIST FREELY. COMMUNISM AND ANARCHISM ARE OUTLAWED.

THERE ARE LIMITATIONS ON THE PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF OPINIONS. THE PRESS EXERCISES SELF-CENSORSHIP, ALTHOUGH IT IS GRADUALLY ACQUIRING A GREATER MARGIN FOR CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 07 STATE 306915

SHORTCOMINGS.

IN 1975, A MAJOR CRIMINAL TRIAL WAS FREELY DEBATED IN THE PRESS. A PERIODICAL DENOUNCED A MILITIA UNIT FOR ALLEGED GROSS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION LISTS HAITI AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF THE HEMISPHERE NOT ENJOYING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

IN MAY, 1976, A JOURNALIST FOR ONE OF THE MORE OUTSPOKEN OF THE HAITIAN PERIODICALS, A POLITICAL AND LITERARY WEEKLY, DIED UNDER MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES IN HAITI. HIS DEATH WAS ATTRIBUTED BY SOME TO PERSONS OR ELEMENTS IN THE GOVERNMENT OFFENDED BY HIS PERIODICAL, BUT WE HAVE SEEN NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THIS CHARGE.

THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY IS RESTRICTED. POLITICAL GATHERINGS, HOWEVER PEACEFUL, ARE NOT PERMITTED.

## II. U.S. GOVERNMENT ACTION IN HUMAN RIGHTS AREA

1. PROMOTION OF OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE PURSUED

OUR CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF  
HAITIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, FROM THE PRESIDENT ON  
DOWN. IN 1974, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY FOR  
REFUGEE AFFAIRS KELLOGG MET WITH PRESIDENT DUVALIER AND  
RECEIVED HIS ASSURANCES THAT HAITIAN REFUGEES RETURNING  
FROM THE U.S. WOULD NOT SUFFER REPRISALS. ALSO IN  
1974, SENATOR EDWARD R. BROOKE AND OUR AMBASSADOR TO  
HAITI, IN A CALL ON PRESIDENT DUVALIER, STRESSED THE  
CONCERN IN CONGRESS AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR HUMAN  
RIGHTS. SENATOR BROOKE'S 1974 VISIT TO HAITI RESULTED  
IN A REPORT TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 08 STATE 306915

WHICH WE UNDERSTAND PRESIDENT DUVALIER INSTRUCTED ALL  
HIS CABINET MINISTERS TO STUDY.

AT EVERY APPROPRIATE OCCASION, OUR AMBASSADOR HAS  
INTRODUCED THE SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WITH SENIOR  
HAITIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY THE MINISTERS  
OF INTERIOR, JUSTICE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WE MAKE THE  
FOLLOWING POINTS IN DEALING WITH HAITIAN LEADERS:

(A) WE FOLLOW CLOSELY ALL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF  
HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI AND CAREFULLY EVALUATE ALL AVAIL-  
ABLE INFORMATION BEARING ON THIS TOPIC. THIS REFLECTS  
THE PRINCIPAL U.S. POLICY GOAL OF PROMOTING INCREASED  
OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS  
BY ALL COUNTRIES.

(B) WE HAVE NOTED THE PATTERN OF EVOLUTION IN THE  
OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI, PARTICULARLY OVER  
THE PAST FOUR YEARS, AND BELIEVE THAT LIBERALIZATION  
IS A WISE POLICY THAT WELL SERVES THE NATIONAL INTERESTS  
OF HAITI.

(C) IN THE CASE OF HAITIANS DEPORTED FROM THE U.S. FOR  
ILLEGAL ENTRY, WE CONSIDER IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT  
WE HAVE FULL INFORMATION AS TO THEIR TREATMENT UPON  
ARRIVAL IN HAITI. THIS PERMITS US TO ESTABLISH CLEARLY  
THAT THEIR TREATMENT IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL  
HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS.

(D) IT IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE THAT THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT  
MAKE FURTHER CLARIFICATION ON THE STATUS OF POLITICAL  
PRISONERS AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT LIBERALIZE REGULATIONS  
ON VISITS TO AND CORRESPONDENCE WITH THESE AND OTHER  
PRISONERS. NONE SHOULD BE HELD WITHOUT PROPER CHARGES;

AND CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES -- PAST OR CURRENT --  
MUST BE MADE PUBLIC.  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 09     STATE 306915

THE COURSE OF THE VISIT OF STAFF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE

JUDICIARY'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION IN EARLY 1976,  
WE AGAIN EMPHASIZED TO HAITIAN LEADERS THE STRONG  
CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS AS REGARDS  
TREATMENT OF HAITIAN REFUGEES.

ON AUGUST 19, 1976, OUR AMBASSADOR PRESENTED A DETAILED  
REVIEW OF U.S. POSITIONS AND CONCERNS ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HE TRANSMITTED THE  
TEXTS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENTS ON HUMAN  
RIGHTS AT THE 1976 OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE FOREIGN  
MINISTER, ACCOMPANIED BY A LETTER STRESSING THE KEY  
POINTS MADE BY THE SECRETARY ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND  
WELCOMING AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE POINTS RAISED.

OTHER OFFICERS OF OUR EMBASSY HAVE BEEN EQUALLY ACTIVE  
WITHIN THE RANGE OF CONTACTS AVAILABLE TO THEM.

THE U.S. INFORMATION SERVICE HAS AVAILED ITSELF OF  
EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY TO THE HAITIAN MEDIA AS  
WELL AS TO HAITIAN GOVERNMENT LEADERS THE SERIOUSNESS  
WITH WHICH THE UNITED STATES REGARDS HUMAN RIGHTS  
MATTERS. ON THE AVERAGE, THE PRINCIPAL WRITERS, EDITORS  
AND PUBLISHERS IN HAITI HAVE BEEN APPROACHED ON THIS  
SUBJECT ONCE A MONTH. MAJOR SPEECHES AND POLICY PRO-  
NOUNCEMENTS, REFERENCES TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CURRENT  
U.S. ELECTION CAMPAIGN, AND CONGRESSIONAL OPINION AND  
ACTION IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA HAVE BEEN PROMPTLY  
COMMUNICATED VIA REGULAR PRESS RELEASES. NOTWITHSTAND-  
ING THE ABSENCE OF APPRECIABLE PRESS FREEDOM IN HAITI,  
OUR EMBASSY IN PORT-AU-PRINCE REPORTS THERE HAS BEEN  
EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF INTERNATIONAL NEWS ON HUMAN  
RIGHTS IN THE HAITIAN MEDIA. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT  
THIS FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION, BOTH FROM U.S. OFFICIAL  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 10     STATE 306915

SOURCES AND FROM WIRE SERVICE DISPATCHES, HAS INFLUENCED  
THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDES AND POLICIES.

B. DISASSOCIATION OF U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE FROM  
VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT IS WELL AWARE OF THE GENERAL

CONNECTIONS WE MAKE BETWEEN OUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND THE EXTENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVANCE. A MAJOR UNDERLYING REASON FOR THE WITHDRAWAL IN 1963 OF OUR HAITI MILITARY TRAINING MISSION, AS WELL AS OF OUR AID MISSION, WAS THE ABUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AT THAT TIME. CONVERSELY, THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT ONLY BY VIRTUE OF SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED PERFORMANCE IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS COULD THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAVE CONSIDERED RESUMING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AS WE HAVE DONE.

THE PRESENT MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM BEGAN LATE IN FY 1975, IS EXTREMELY MODEST IN SCALE, HAS LITTLE OR NO PUBLIC PROFILE IN HAITI, AND WAS CAREFULLY AND DELIBERATELY DESIGNED TO CONCENTRATE UPON SEA AND AIR RESCUE AND THE STRENGTHENING OF ASSOCIATED LOGISTIC AND COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES. NOTHING IN THE PRESENT LIMITED MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM HAS ANY APPLICATION TO THE INTERNAL SECURITY CAPABILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT. OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN EFFECTIVELY DISSOCIATED FROM ANY POTENTIAL VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND, CONVERSELY, ITS REINTRODUCTION HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT'S PERFORMANCE IN THIS FIELD.

### III. U.S. INTERESTS JUSTIFYING A SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

THE VERY SMALL U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR HAITI IS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY TO ASSIST THE HAITIANS TO BUILD UP A CAPABILITY FOR SEA AND AIR RESCUE AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 11 STATE 306915

MAINTENANCE OF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, AN IMPORTANT HUMANITARIAN CAPABILITY FOR ANY GOVERNMENT AND ONE WHICH WILL IN FACT ALSO ASSIST IN PROTECTION TO U.S. MARINERS NOW TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON THE U.S. COAST GUARD.

THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS ALSO DESIGNED TO ESTABLISH SOME DEGREE OF U.S. CONTACT WITH THE REGULAR ARMED FORCES OF HAITI, TO ENHANCE THE PROFESSIONALISM OF THOSE ELEMENTS OF THE HAITIAN ARMED FORCES NOT INVOLVED IN INTERNAL SECURITY IN CONTRAST TO THE IRREGULAR SECURITY FORCES RELIED ON BY THE REGIME OF THE ELDER DUVALIER, AND TO PROVIDE A VEHICLE FOR U.S. INFLUENCE WITH THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT ON A RANGE OF U.S. INTERESTS IN HAITI, INCLUDING HUMAN RIGHTS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE CURRENT U.S. SECURITY PROGRAM FOR HAITI SHOULD BE CONTINUED. ELIMINATION OF THE MODEST U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WOULD HAVE NO IMPACT ON GOVERNMENT OF HAITI HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES. TO THE CONTRARY, IT



WOULD LESSEN OUR ABILITY TO INFLUENCE THE HAITIAN  
GOVERNMENT ON A RANGE OF U.S. INTERESTS IN HAITI,  
INCLUDING PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. END REPORT  
KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 16 SEP 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, REPORTS, LAW, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PRISONERS WELFARE, INVESTIGATIONS, POLITICAL SUMMARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** powellba  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE306915  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARA/CAR:FTUMMINIA:FBL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D760466-0279  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761293/baaarba.tel  
**Line Count:** 439  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 8  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** powellba  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2004 by powellba>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT  
**TAGS:** SHUM, HA, US, (DUVALIER, JEAN-CLAUDE)  
**To:** PORT AU PRINCE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006